

## Article - Health - General

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§24–903.

(a) A Program shall:

(1) Be designed and maintained to provide security of Program locations and equipment, in accordance with regulations adopted by the Department;

(2) Be operated to allow participants to obtain and return hypodermic needles and syringes at any Program location, if more than one location is available;

(3) Include appropriate levels of staff expertise in working with individuals who inject drugs;

(4) Include adequate staff training in providing community referrals, counseling, and preventive education;

(5) Provide for the dissemination of other preventive means for curtailing the spread of HIV and viral hepatitis;

(6) Provide linkage to additional services, including:

(i) Substance–related disorder counseling, treatment, and recovery services;

(ii) Testing for HIV, viral hepatitis, and sexually transmitted diseases;

(iii) Reproductive health education and services;

(iv) Wound care; and

(v) The services of an overdose response program under Title 13, Subtitle 31 of this article;

(7) Educate participants on the dangers of contracting HIV and viral hepatitis;

(8) Provide overdose prevention education and access to naloxone, or a referral for a participant to obtain naloxone;

(9) Establish procedures for identifying Program participants that are consistent with the confidentiality provisions of this subtitle;

(10) Establish a method of identification and authorization for Program staff members and Program volunteers who have access to hypodermic needles, syringes, or Program records; and

(11) Develop a plan for data collection and Program evaluation in accordance with regulations adopted by the Department.

(b) A Program may offer additional services, including:

(1) Substance-related disorder counseling, treatment, and recovery services;

(2) Testing for HIV, viral hepatitis, and sexually transmitted diseases;

(3) Reproductive health education and services;

(4) Wound care; and

(5) The services of an overdose response program under Title 13, Subtitle 31 of this article.

(c) With the technical assistance of the Standing Advisory Committee, a Program shall develop:

(1) Program operating procedures for the distribution, collection, and safe disposal of hypodermic needles and syringes;

(2) A community outreach and education plan; and

(3) A protocol for linking Program participants to substance-related disorder treatment and recovery services.

(d) After receiving technical assistance from the Standing Advisory Committee, a Program shall submit the operating procedures, plan for community outreach and education, and protocol for linking Program participants to substance-related disorder treatment and recovery services developed under subsection (c) of this section for approval to:

- (1) The local health officer for each county in which a Program is established; and
- (2) The Department.

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